

**SECRET**OLC 71-2044  
30 November 1971

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Agency Budget Process

I talked to Ralph Preston, House Appropriations Committee staff, this afternoon about Chairman Mahon's attitude toward placing the Agency budget in military authorization legislation. In brief, Mr. Preston told me that although Chairman Mahon has been rather adamant in the past that the authorization process should be utilized for the Agency budget, in the light of current events Mr. Preston feels the Chairman would be amenable to review of the Agency budget with other matters not requiring authorization. In other words, determination would be necessary by the Executive to include the Agency 1973 budget in a portion of the President's budget which would not require authorizing legislation. Prior to forwarding the President's budget, the matter should be discussed with Chairman Mahon and his approval obtained.

/s/ JOSEPH G. O'NEILL, JR.

JOSEPH G. O'NEILL, JR.  
Assistant Legislative Counsel

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